

in which

R is a hydrogen or a CH<sub>2</sub>COOH group,

X is hydrogen, OH or NH<sub>2</sub>, but is OH or NH<sub>2</sub> if Y is hydrogen,

Y is hydrogen, OH or NH<sub>2</sub> but is OH or NH<sub>2</sub> if X is hydrogen, or

X and Y together are a π bond,

and/or an anhydride of the polycarboxylic acid I

ii. with ammonia and, if desired,

iii. with primary amines and/or compounds containing at least two hydroxyl groups;

and/or

(B) a mixture of at least one polycarboxylic acid of the formula I and/or its anhydride

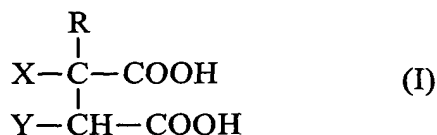
and at least one substance which releases ammonia on heating and, if desired, primary amines

and/or compounds containing at least two hydroxyl groups.

12. (Amended) A heat-curable composition comprising

(A) at least one reaction product of

i. at least one polycarboxylic acid of the formula I:



in which

R is hydrogen or a CH<sub>2</sub>COOH group,

X is hydrogen, OH or NH<sub>2</sub>, but is OH or NH<sub>2</sub> if Y is hydrogen,

Y is hydrogen, OH or NH<sub>2</sub> but is OH or NH<sub>2</sub> is X is hydrogen, or

X and Y together are a  $\pi$  bond,

and/or an anhydride of the polycarboxylic acid I

ii. with ammonia and, if desired,

iii. with primary amines and/or compounds containing at least two hydroxyl groups;

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and/or

(B) a mixture of at least one polycarboxylic acid of the formula I and/or its anhydride

and at least one substance which releases ammonia on heating and, if desired, primary amines

and/or compounds containing at least two hydroxyl groups; and

(C) at least one further constituent selected from finely divided polymers of

ethylenically unsaturated monomers, compounds containing at least two hydroxyl groups,

and polymeric polycarboxylic acids.

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#### DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by making explicit what was at least implicit, i.e., that X and Y can each be hydrogen, but must be OH or NH<sub>2</sub> when the other is hydrogen. In addition, Claim 1 has been rewritten by inserting prefixes --(1)-- and --(2)--, so that it is clear that Claim 1 is drawn to two alternative embodiments, i.e., (1) moldings from finely divided materials and (2) consolidated sheetlike structures of fiber materials, and by inserting prefixes --(A)-- and --(B)--, so that it is clear that the heat curable composition is (A) and/or (B). The term --consolidated-- has been inserted and is supported in the specification at page 24, line 12. Claim 12 has been amended accordingly, except that the prefix --(C)-- has also been inserted therein. No change in claim scope is intended or effected by the above amendment.

No new matter has been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-12 remain